

**To:** Krauss, Jeff[jkrauss@blm.gov]  
**Cc:** Christopher McAlear[cmcalear@blm.gov]; Nikki Moore[nmoore@blm.gov]  
**From:** Haskett, Nikki  
**Sent:** 2017-11-29T16:52:28-05:00  
**Importance:** Normal  
**Subject:** Re: Please Review: Monument Q&As  
**Received:** 2017-11-29T16:52:39-05:00  
BLM Utah CommPlan ActiononMonumentReview Updated 610 nmh.docx

Hi Jeff,

Per our discussion, I took a shot at revising this. I used the fast facts from the Bears Ears designation and the information Utah provided. You may want to turn off track changes :)

Nikki Haskett (Moore)  
Acting Deputy Assistant Director  
National Conservation Lands and Community Partnerships  
Bureau of Land Management, Washington D.C.  
202.219.3180 (o)

On Wed, Nov 29, 2017 at 2:30 PM, Krauss, Jeff <[jkrauss@blm.gov](mailto:jkrauss@blm.gov)> wrote:

Chris and Nikki,  
can you please review the draft Q&As and attached comm plan? thanks.

Jeff

## Communication Plan

### ***Presidential Action on Secretarial Recommendation for Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument and Bears Ears National Monument***

#### **INTRODUCTION**

BLM Utah currently manages two national monuments: Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument (GSENM) established by President Clinton in 1996 and Bears Ears National Monument (BENM) established by President Obama in 2016. The establishment of both monuments has been the subject of intense media scrutiny and controversy. In April 2017, President Trump released an Executive Order requesting review of certain monuments, including the GSENM and BENM. Secretary Zinke conducted a field visit to both monuments and prepared a recommendation to the President.

President Trump has publicly announced his intention to visit Utah in early December to announce action on the Secretarial recommendations for the BENM and GSENM. This document provides consistent messaging and information to use during the initial roll out of the new proclamations when responding to both the public and media.

#### **COMMUNICATION GOALS**

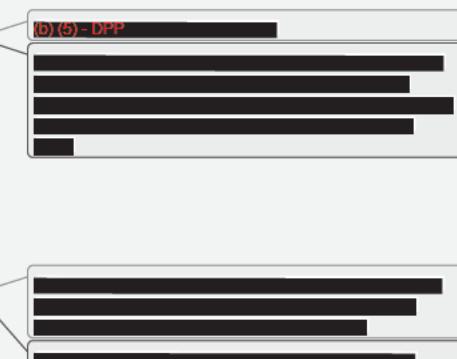
1. Communicate BLM (and USFS) support of the national monuments review and Secretary Zinke's recommendation to the President.
2. Communicate immediate tangible results from presidential action on resources and management within the areas currently managed as BENM and GSENM, focusing on other applicable laws for relevant cultural and natural resources.

#### **TARGET AUDIENCE:**

- People who follow news about the two National Monuments in Utah
- Local, state, and federal government agencies
- Tribes
- Local communities (Monticello, Blanding, Bluff, Cortez, Dove Creek, Montezuma Creek, Kanab, Escalante, Big Water, Cannonville, Boulder, Glendale)
- Special interest groups
- Nonprofit organizations
- Media and social media
- Industry –energy, grazing, mining
- Recreationists (climbing, mountain biking, rock art/archaeology/paleontology groups, OHV users)

### Talking Points

1. As part of its review of national monuments, Secretary Zinke and key members of his staff met with stakeholders and members of the local community on the ground, demonstrating his commitment to hearing from everyone, particularly local voices affected by national monument designations. These meetings were in addition to the comment period held to gather input from interested parties.
2. Any public lands outside of the revised monument boundaries will remain in the stewardship of BLM and USFS. BLM lands and will be managed according to all relevant laws including the Federal Lands Policy and Management Act, Paleontological Resources Preservation Act, the Archaeological Resources Protection Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, and Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. Many of the areas in Garfield, Kane and San Juan counties that are outside of the new monument boundaries also have additional resource protection measures under agency guidance for Wilderness Study Areas, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, designated "natural areas," and Special Recreation Management Areas.
3. Existing management plans remain in effect until new plans are developed.
4. Public input is key to sound decision making. Public involvement will be welcomed in future land use planning and NEPA analyses as the agencies implement the new Proclamations. BLM appreciates the time and effort people take in providing comments, because inclusion is vital to managing sustainable, working public lands.



### STRATEGIES

1. Generally, questions regarding the status of the monument review or Presidential action will be answered using information in DOI press releases. Members of the media will be referred to [press\\_interior@ios.doi.gov](mailto:press_interior@ios.doi.gov) during the initial roll out.
2. Q&A documents for the BENM and GSENM.
3. Edit BLM Utah website content to reflect monument boundaries, provide copy of Proclamation, etc.

### TALKING POINTS

#### I. Secretarial Review of National Monuments:

##### In response to media inquiries:

The Department of Interior is coordinating all media inquiries regarding the monument review. Please contact interior [press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:press@ios.doi.gov).

**If asked about Utah's efforts to transfer federal lands to the state:**

In recent statements, Secretary Zinke has firmly restated his opposition to the selling or transferring public lands and the importance of retaining federal ownership of those lands, regardless of any recommendations for modifications to national monuments. These lands and their resources will remain in the stewardship of the BLM and USFS and available for public use.

**Other questions (Paraphrased or direct quotes from DOI Press Releases):**

DOI hosted a formal public comment period on the review from May 12, 2017, to July 10, 2017. We are grateful to everyone who took the time to comment, and to stakeholders who hosted field trips or met with Secretary Zinke. [The comments received helped inform Secretary Zinke's recommendations to the President.]

(b) (5) - DPP

On June 12, 2017, Secretary Zinke submitted a 45 day interim report on Bears Ears National Monument to the President. His initial recommendations for Bears Ears included:

- Reconsidering monument boundaries
- Areas with cultural significance be co managed by Tribal Nations
- Congressional action to protect certain areas

The 120 day review included more than 60 meetings with hundreds of advocates and opponents of monument designations, tours of monuments, including Bears Ears and Grand Staircase Escalante, conducted over air, foot, car, and horseback, and a thorough review of more than 2.4 million public comments submitted to the Department on regulations.gov. Additionally, countless more meetings and conversations between senior Interior officials and local, state, tribal, and non government stakeholders including multiple tribal listening sessions.

*PLACEHOLDER: ADD INFO FROM FINAL SECRETARIAL REPORT/PROCLAMATION*

**What is the effect of a President's proclamation(s)?**

The President's proclamation designates the X National Monument(s) and replaces the existing Proclamation establishing the Grand Staircase Escalante National Monument from 1996. The designations directs the BLM responsible agencies to manage these areas for the care and management of objects of scientific and historic interest identified by the proclamations.

**What happens to the areas no longer inside the monument?**

If the new monument boundary is smaller, the BLM managed land that was previously within the monument would continue to be managed by the BLM but would no longer be part of the National Monument. These BLM managed lands no longer within the monument would

continue to be managed under the existing land use plans until newly revised management plans could be completed.

Objects and resources, like fossils, would continue to be protected under applicable laws such as the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act (2009) which mandates that fossils on all federal lands be managed according to best scientific principles in order to prevent avoidable losses. Federal law also prohibits the collection of vertebrate fossils on all public lands without a valid paleontological research permit. For more info, see this [PRPA Fact Sheet](#). All BLM lands and resources are also subject to the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA), National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). ARPA and NAGPRA protect cultural resources on all public lands from looting and vandalism.

**Formatted:** Font: 12 pt

#### **What happens to the areas within a national monument?**

First, it applies only to Federal lands, lands that belong already to the American people. Second, families will be able to use the land as they always have: the land will remain open for multiple uses including hunting, fishing, hiking, camping, and grazing. Third, all valid existing rights will continue to be honored, regardless of monument designation. Nothing interferes with continued operation or maintenance of rights of way like existing power lines and pipelines.

**Formatted:** Font: Not Bold, No underline

**Formatted:** Font: 11 pt

A national monument designation does not change fire management activities. All future management will continue to focus first on public and firefighter safety while taking actions to protect valuable resources. Fuel reduction projects may be implemented in national monuments to address the risk of wildfire, insect infestation, or disease that would imperil public safety or endanger the objects or resources protected by the national monument designation.

(b) (5) - DPP



The proclamation also establishes a local advisory committee made up of interested stakeholders including state and local governments, tribes, recreational users, local business owners, and private landowners.

#### **How would a proclamation impact public access?**

Public access, such as for hunting and fishing, would continue to be managed by the State of Utah. Tribes will continue to be able to collect plants, firewood, and other traditional materials within monument boundaries. Visitors may continue to use motorized vehicles and non motorized mechanized vehicles (e.g. mountain bikes) on roads and trails designated as open for their use.

#### **How would a proclamation affect grazing?**

A designation does not affect valid existing rights. Additionally, grazing permits and leases would likely continue to be issued and administered by the BLM. There have been no changes to grazing management since the initial establishment of the monuments in 1996.

**How does a designation affect military uses of the land and airspace?**

Nothing in the proclamation precludes low level overflights of military aircraft, designation of new units of special use airspace, or the use or establishment of military flight training routes over the lands reserved by the proclamation, consistent with the care and management of the objects to be protected.

Formatted: Font: 12 pt, Bold, Underline

Formatted: Highlight

Formatted: Font: 12 pt

CONFIDENTIAL DRAFT